

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/825,481

Applicant(s)

SRINIVAS ET AL.

Examiner

My-Trang N. Ton

Art Unit

2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed 10/4/06 and Tel. Int. 11/15/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4,5,7,8,10-12,14-23 and 25-27.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 11/15/06.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


MY-TRANG N. TON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Att. Kordich on November 15, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 4, after "inverters", insert – that include a first and second NFET and a first and second PFET".

Cancel claims 2-3.

In claim 4,

line 1, before "each" insert – for --; and after "inverters", insert -- , --;

line 2, replace "comprise a" with – the --; and before "n", replace "a" with – the --.

Cancel claim 6.

Reasons for allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art disclosed or suggested to show the particular structure and/or the particular operation recited in these claims namely: the details of "predriver",

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such as: "the first NFET is larger than the second PFET, creating unequal delays... rising to logic one" and "the second NFET is larger than the first PFET, creating unequal delays between the output of the second inverter ... rising to logic one" in combination with "a driver" as recited in claim 1; "the NFETs of the cross-coupled inverters are larger than the PFETs of the cross-coupled inverters, said NFETs and PFETs being sized with respect to each other ... rises to logic one in response to a transition in the input signal" in combination with "an input inverter", "two cross-coupled inverters", "first and second output buffers" and "first and second tristate devices" as recited in claim 10; "cross-coupled inverter means ... includes first and second outputs, the first output has a first delay charging relative to the second output discharging, the second output has a second delay charging relative to the first output discharging, and said first and second delays are created by the unequal transistor sizes of the cross-coupled inverters" in combination with "inverter means", "first and second output buffer means" and "first and second tristate means" as recited in claim 23; "sizing the NFETs and PFETs of the cross-coupled inverters such that each of the NFETs are larger than each of the PFETs of the cross-coupled inverters so that a first time constant to charge a first output of the cross-coupled inverters is greater than a second time constant to discharge a second output ... so that the first output discharges before the second output charges" in combination with all the method steps as recited in claim 26.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to My-Trang N. Ton whose telephone number is 571-272-1754. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 a.m - 5:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



My-Trang N. Ton
Primary Examiner
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November 15, 2006